

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy., Dover, Delaware, March 19, 2014, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture representing
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer	Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Kelly Callahan representing chip flowers, Jr., State Treasurer

Absent: Peter Martin, William H. "Chip" Narvel, Jr., and Robert Emerson.

The following staff members were in attendance: Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Kathi Spangler, and Cathy Mesick.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, David Carter of the National Audubon Society and Jill Cravens representing Del DOT.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. as an informational meeting as a quorum was not yet established.

I. Current Situation Report:

Scott Blaier informed the Board that we have a total of 1,225 farms in preservation districts totaling 167,854 acres, with a total of 798 farms under agricultural easements totaling 1150,315 acres at a cost of \$207,221,503. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 37 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,711 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804. There are 300 properties eligible for PDR Round 19, totaling 32,641 acres, with an estimated value of \$134,740,000.

II. Young Farmers Report

Austin Short informed the Board that the one remaining loan from Round 3 (Bonniwell) is scheduled to settle soon. The four loans from Round 4 should settle this spring. Approximately \$400,000 should remain in the Young Farmers account after all settlements from Rounds 3 and 4. After July, a new loan application period can be considered depending on the FY'15 budget allocation. Staff mailed letters to Young Farmer loan recipients requesting documentation, such as a Schedule F, to verify that the Young Farmer loan recipients are farming their properties (as required by the law).

III. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that all 440 Federal parcels have been visited. The processing of the information on the Federal parcels will take 3 months. After the work on the Federal parcel information is done then the 860 non-Federal parcels will be visited.

IV. District Final Approval:

Austin Short asked Mr. Parkowski if he could legally represent Secretary Kee as a quorum was needed to continue the business of the Foundation. Mr. Parkowski indicated that it would be appropriate for Mr. Short to represent Secretary Kee, as Mr. Short was the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

1. Tuskey District, ID#S-13-12-273. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for final approval the Tuskey District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Rust Farm District, ID#S-13-12-270. After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for final approval the Rust Farm District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Coolbranch District, ID#S-11-272. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for final approval the Coolbranch District, seconded by Allen Messick. Motion unanimously approved.**

4. William H. Webb District, ID#K-13-09-269. After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for final approval the William H. Webb District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansion Eligibility and Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Carmean Expansion of the Chipman Farms District ID#S-14-02-080Q. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for final eligibility/final approval, contingent upon sale, the Carmean Expansion of the Chipman Farms District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Vincent Farms Expansion of the Chipman Farms District, ID#S-14-02-080P. After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for eligibility/final approval, contingent upon sale, the Vincent Farms Expansion of the Chipman Farms District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

Fair Hope III Expansion of the Hayden-Gallo District, ID#K-14-02-062L. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval, contingent upon sale, the Fair Hope III Expansion of the Hayden-Gallo District, seconded by Allen Messick. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Expansion Eligibility and Final Approval:

1. Webb #1 Expansion of the William H. Webb District, ID#K-13-09-269A After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Webb #1 Expansion of the William H. Webb District, seconded by Austin Short. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Webb #2 Expansion of the William H. Webb District, ID#K-13-09-269B After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Webb #2 Expansion of the William H. Webb District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. Newberg Expansion of the Tybout Tract District, ID#N-13-11-130S. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Newberg Expansion of the Tybout Tract District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

4. Rep. Charles P. West Expansion of the Jones Church District, ID#S-13-12-255A. After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Rep. Charles P. West Expansion of the Jones Church District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

5. Charles P. West, II Expansion of the Baxter Farms, Inc.-Lowes Crossroads District, ID#S-13-12-038C. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Charles P. West, II Expansion of the Jones Church District, seconded by Austin Short. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto:

Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Expansions and Districts in a memo dated March 19, 2014, as the Secretary could not be present at the meeting.

VIII. Public Comments:

Mr. Carter of the Audubon Society addressed the Foundation concerning the County, Open Space and Aglands Preservation Cooperative Initiative. Mr. Carter distributed a written statement to the Board and expressed his concerns about the initiative and asked the Board to carefully consider this initiative. Chairman Garey and Michael Parkowski addressed Mr. Carter's concerns over the Initiative.

Mr. Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. came into the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

IX. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the February 19, 2014 minutes. Hearing no changes, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **William Vanderwende moved to approve the February minutes, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Statement for the month of February 28, 2014, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of February 28, 2014, \$59,475.24 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. Interest income was \$25.03, rollback tax income was \$65.65, and license plates income was \$700.00. Expenditures for the month of February totaled \$46,916.38. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the February financial statement as presented, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

XI. Executive Session:

It was indicated by Mr. Parkowski that there was no need for an Executive Session.

XII. Other Business:

1. Carl P. King, Jr. Expansion, ID#S-97-02-028L
Del DOT Right-of-Way Easement Request.

Mr. Milton Melendez presented the Del DOT right of way easement request, providing a handout sheet to the Foundation for their review. Ms. Jill Cravens, the Del DOT representative, answered questions from the Board about the replacement of the metal pipes by concrete pipes. Mr. Parkowski explained that these types of requests are routine and have been reviewed and Mr. Parkowski has no objection to this request. Ms. Cravens presented the easement document for the Chairman's signature, which was signed by the Chairman.

XVII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on April 16, 2014 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Garey
Chairman